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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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WILLIAM C TRITT
THE LUBRIZOL CORPORATION
29400 LAKELAND BOULEVARD
WICKLIFFE OH 44092-2298

EXAMINER

TOOMER, C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1714

DATE MAILED:

08/03/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/432539

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Group Art Unit

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 111; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 8,10 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 8 is rejected because it is not clear what constitutes "a lower alkyl".

Clarification is required.

Claim 10 is rejected because "phosphirus" should read --phosphorus--.

Claims 18-20 are rejected because the composition cannot be "a manual transmission".

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102/103

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-15 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as obvious over Hollinghurst et al (US 3,652,410).

Hollinghurst teaches a multifunctional lubricant additive (transmission) comprising a basic detergent (Ba, Ca or Mg sulfonates), a friction modifier and an organic phosphite (see col. 1, lines 50-53; col. 2, lines 33-67; col. 3, lines 15-30; col. 4, lines 35-56; col. 5, lines 1-16; Table 1).

Accordingly, Hollinghurst teaching all the material limitations of the claims, anticipates the claims.

Even if Hollinghurst is not sufficient to anticipate the claims, it would have been nonetheless obvious to have prepared the composition given the broad disclosure of Hollinghurst.

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6. Claims 1-15 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as obvious over Di Biase et al (5,523,005).

Di Biase teaches gear lubricants comprising hydrocarbyl phosphites and overbased Ca, Ba, Mg sulfonates (see abstract; col. 3, lines 5-39; col. 5, line 57 through col. 6, lines 1-45; col. 20, lines 38-56; col. 22, lines 9-34). Accordingly, Di Biase teaching all the material limitations of the claims anticipates the claims. Even if Di Biase is not sufficient to anticipate the claims, it would have been nonetheless obvious to have prepared the claimed composition given the broad disclosure of Di Biase.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollinghurst further in view of Ohtani (US 5,344,579)..

Hollinghurst fails to teach the claimed friction modifiers. However, Ohtani teaches this difference.

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Ohtani teaches lubricant compositions suitable for use in transmissions wherein the supplemental friction modifiers may be fatty acids, fatty amines or fatty amides (see col. 7, lines 14-34).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have substituted the fatty amide or amine of Ohtani for the fatty acid of Hollinghurst because Ohtani teaches that the compounds are equivalent for the purpose of modifying friction.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Cephia D. Toomer at telephone number (703) 308-2509.



Cephia D. Toomer

Patent Examiner-1714

Toomer/ns

August 2, 2000